



American Legion

Centennial Post 209

P.O. Box 15461

Colorado Springs Colo. 80935

Newsletter: July 1981

ITEM 1: Our next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, 16 July 1981 at 7:30 p.m. Our meeting will be at the DAV Home located just east of the Olympic Training Center at 2101 Willamette (2 blocks east of Union Blvd.). Please try to attend. We're getting into a new Legion year and we have to get organized for action.

ITEM 2: My humble apologies for not getting a newsletter out in June. I'll try not to let that happen again. However, we did have a meeting attended by those who remembered our meeting time, place and date. Topics discussed were the demise of on-campus veterans support, protecting our income from Bingo, committee reports and new committee requirements, Boys State, finances and veterans affairs matters, and legislation.

ITEM 3: I attempted to call members to remind them of the meeting last month and found that our telephone roster is sadly and badly out-of-date. In view of that, I'm going to ask all receiving this newsletter to spend 18 cents on a postage stamp. Put that stamp on an envelope addressed to the letterhead on this newsletter and enclose a piece of paper with your name, correct address and phone number (preferably both home and work, if possible). Then seal the envelope and put it in the mail. I know this is asking for a big sacrifice but there is an easier way--come to the meeting and deliver that information in person. The Post wants to keep you informed of what is happening but to do this we must be able to contact you.

ITEM 4: BINGO - things are looking up. We anticipate a nice return on our efforts this past quarter. We do need help though - even if you can only assist for half a

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game. It is not strenuous and it can actually be enjoyable because we have a nice bunch of people playing.

ITEM 5: The Installation Banquet on 22 May was a resounding success. We had 28 people (9 from other posts) and sat down to a fine steak dinner with wine. The AFA NCO Club did a beautiful job for us and the Post has authorized a letter of commendation and Certificate of Appreciation for their service to us. Much credit goes to Neal Thomas.

ITEM 6: One item that deserves your attention is the effect of inflation on everything we do. In 1975, when we were getting underway as a post, we established our dues at \$12.00 per annum. Our portion of those dues barely covers mailing this newsletter each month and it sure doesn't leave anything for operating expenses. National is going to raise dues after 9 January 1982. The increase will be \$2.00 per annum (they get \$3.50 now). In view of that, the Post has to have some discussion to see which way we will have to go. Come to the meeting and let George know how you feel.

ITEM 7: With the new Legion year starting, we've got to get with a membership drive. We made our quota this past year and we'd sure like to exceed it this year. Let's each get a new member to go along with our own renewal -- Be An Early Bird.

ITEM 8: If you read the newspapers or listened to local news recently, you will know that the vets at UCCS and EPCC have lost their on-campus VCIP reps. By Fall registration time, I think the impact of that loss will be felt. The Post stands ready to help in any way we can but the consensus at our June meeting was to let the student vets get organized and prepare a program so that we can be informed of what they would like us to do. The Post is also working on a plan to have the Department Mobile Office at UCCS during registration so we can do some recruiting and show them that we are interested.

Enough for now but I'll close with a quote from Rudyard Kipling - "I've eaten your bread and salt, I've drunk your water and wine. The deaths ye've died, I've watched beside, and the lives ye've led were mine".

Perhaps that's a fitting tribute to all veterans who have experienced the trials and tribulations of combat in the cause of duty, honor and country.


Max Hoyer
Commander

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